

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ☐  
no ☒

Property Name: Reich's Ford Road Bridge #72 Inventory Number: F-5-7  
 Address: Reich's Ford Road over Bush Creek City: Ijamsville Zip Code: 21754  
 County: Frederick USGS Topographic Map: Urbana  
Board of County Commissioners of Frederick County  
 Owner: Maryland Is the property being evaluated a district? ☐ yes  
 Tax Parcel Number: N/A Tax Map Number: 87 Tax Account ID Number: NA  
 Project: Ijamsville Road Improvements Agency: Frederick County Division of Public Works  
 Site visit by MHT Staff: ☐ no ☐ yes Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Is the property located within a historic district? ☐ yes ☒ no

*If the property is within a district*

District Inventory Number: \_\_\_\_\_

NR-listed district ☐ yes Eligible district ☐ yes District Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ☐ yes ☐ no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ☐

*If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)*

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ☐ yes ☒ no

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☒ None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MIHP form, "Frederick County Bridge Historical Trust Inventory"

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The Reich's Ford Road bridge over Bush Creek is located on Reich's Ford Road approximately .11 miles west of Mussetter Road. The existing bridge represents a late twentieth century design used on rural roads. The Reich's Ford Road bridge is a twelve-panel, single-lane, single-span, pony truss with metal deck. It is an example of a single-single configuration of a Bailey bridge, indicating that the truss is one panel on each side of the road and stacked one panel high. The bridge rests on low stone abutments.

The bridge documented in the 1978 MIHP form was constructed in 1905 by the York Bridge Company of York, Pennsylvania. The earlier bridge was a simple one-span pony Pratt steel truss bridge with riveted connections. At the time of the 1978 inventory, parts of the bridge were severely rusted. The bridge documented in the inventory form completed in 1978 was replaced in 1980. The existing bridge is included on a list prepared for the Maryland Historical Trust in 1991 entitled "Frederick County Bridge Historical Trust Inventory". The Maryland Historical Trust did not previously evaluate the 1905 bridge nor the 1980 replacement bridge.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility not recommended ☒  
 Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None  
 Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

*[Signature]* ✓  
 Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

11/13/03

Date

*[Signature]*  
 Reviewer, NR Program

11/18/03

Date

200304148

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORMContinuation Sheet No. 1

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The existing bridge is not yet fifty years of age and therefore is evaluated under the Criteria Considerations. The bridge is not eligible under Criteria Consideration G, exceptional design importance, because research to date has not revealed associations with or events of extraordinary importance.

By the late nineteenth century, metal bridges replaced wooden spans. By the 1870s, metal truss bridges exclusively were used in bridge construction in Frederick County. Metal truss bridges took the name of the inventor and were based on the arrangement of the triangular members. Bridges were prefabricated at a foundry and shipped in pieces to the site and assembled. Bridges were constructed of cast iron, wrought iron, and steel. Pony truss bridges do not have overhead bracing, unlike through truss bridges. Automobile and truck traffic increased during the early twentieth century resulting in upgrading of existing roads and the construction of new roads and bridges. The Reich's Ford Road bridge constructed in 1905 was built by the York Bridge Company, York, Pennsylvania. The company operated between 1902 and 1917.

The existing Reich's Ford Road bridge over Bush Creek was constructed in 1980. It is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places because the necessary perspective resulting from scholarly research and evaluation has not been created and an historic context has not been developed. The existing bridge represents a late twentieth century design commonly used on rural roads. The current bridge is an example of a single-single configuration of a Bailey bridge, indicating that the truss is one panel on each side of the road and stacked one panel high. The Bailey bridge was first developed in 1940 for the army. Bailey bridges are expensive bridges that Frederick County has used to replace bridges on secondary roads. They also have been used as temporary bridges.

Prepared by: Kirsten Peeler  
Project Manager  
R. Christopher Goodwin &  
Assoc., Inc.

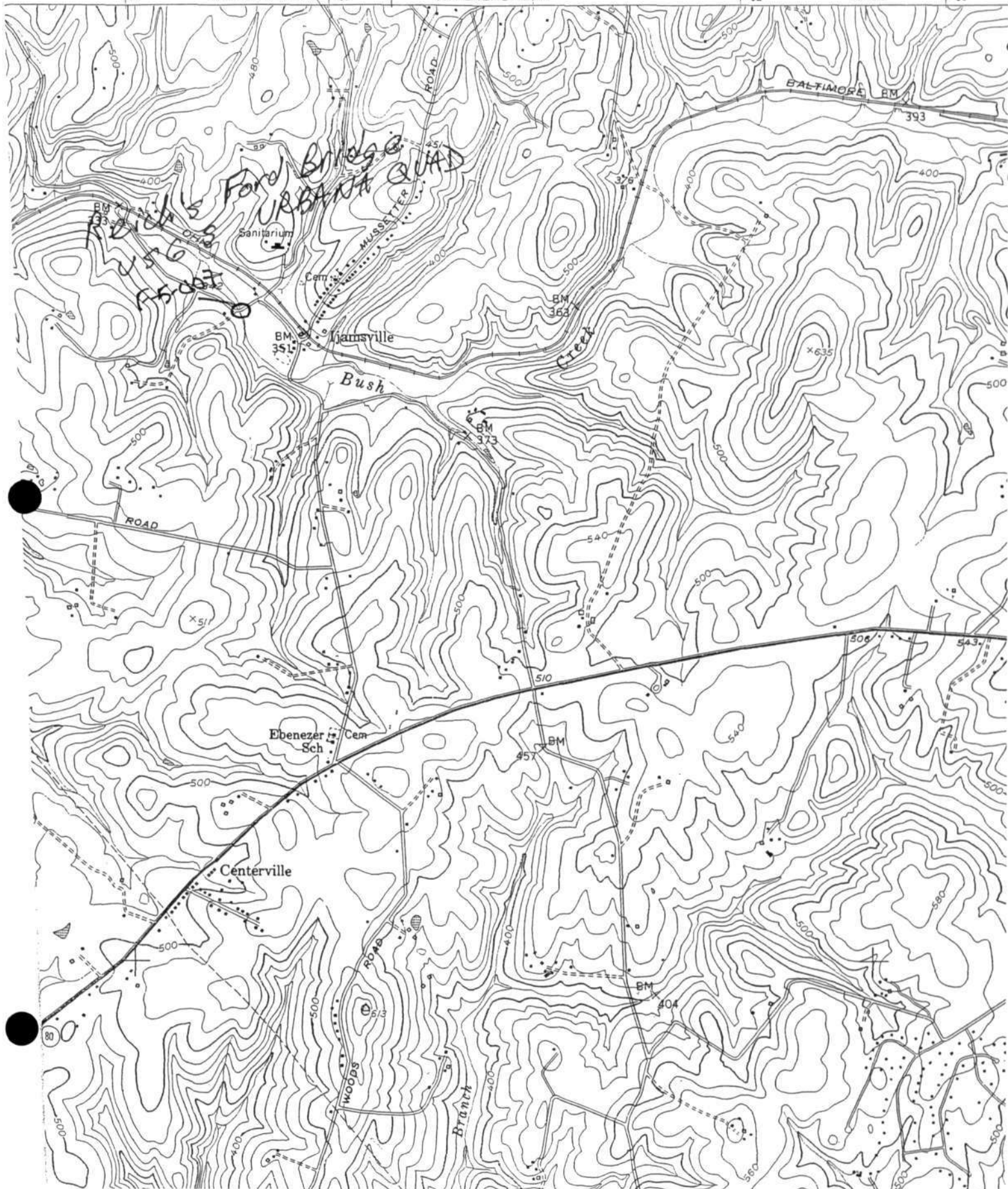
Date Prepared: 20 August 2003

21

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
CORPS OF ENGINEERS

F-5-007  
Reich's Ford Bridge over Bush Creek  
Ijamsville, Frederick County, Maryland  
U.S.G.S. Map: Urbana Quadrangle

20' 1.4 MI. TO U.S. 40 300 5562 IV NE (WALKERSVILLE) 302 17'30" 303





F-5-07  
221015 FORD BRIDGE OVER BUSB CREEK  
FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND  
WATKINS FINE GRANITE  
JLY 2003  
LOOKING SOUTHEAST  
19F1

F-5-7  
Reich's Ford Bridge  
Ijamsville  
Public

1905

The Reich's Ford Road Bridge is a simple one span pony pratt steel truss bridge, fifty two feet long and seven feet, ten inches wide with rivetted connections which was built by the York Bridge Co., of York, Pennsylvania in 1905.

According to Polks York City Directory, the York Bridge Company was in business between 1902 and 1917 and advertised as "Bridge Builders of Iron and Steel Structural Work."

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## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Reich's Ford Bridge # 72 over Bush Creek

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Reich's Ford Road over Bush Creek

6th E. D. 9

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Maryland

— VICINITY OF Ijamsville

Frederick

STATE

COUNTY

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☐ BUILDING(S)  
☒ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC  
☐ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☐ YES: RESTRICTED  
☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☒ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Frederick County Roads Board

Telephone #: 663-8300

Montevue Lane

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Frederick

CITY, TOWN

Maryland 21701

STATE, zip code

— VICINITY OF

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

F-5-7

## CONDITION

— EXCELLENT  
 X GOOD  
 — FAIR

— DETERIORATED  
 — RUINS  
 — UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

X UNALTERED  
 — ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

X ORIGINAL SITE  
 — MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Reich's Ford Road Bridge over Bush Creek is a simple one span pony pratt steel truss bridge, fifty-two feet eight inches in length and seven feet ten inches high with rivetted connections. The side railings on the bridge are badly rusted. The bridge, as indicated by a plaque placed on the bridge was built by the York Bridge Company in 1905.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY



# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

F-5-7

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1905 BUILDER/ARCHITECT York Bridge Co.

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Reich's Ford Road Bridge was constructed by the York Bridge Company of York, Pennsylvania in 1905.

According to Polk's York City Directory, the York Bridge Company was in business between 1902 and 1917 and advertised as the Bridge Builders of Iron and Steel Structural Work.

There are over forty iron and steel truss bridges still in existence in Frederick County, Maryland. But, with increasing development in the area many of these bridges will be destroyed because of additional tonnage requirements demanded on highway structures.

Iron truss bridges portray an important step in bridge engineering design and were the most popular form of bridge construction in Frederick County, Maryland between The 1870's and the 1930's. One of the earliest mentions of iron bridges in Frederick County is found in The Frederick Examiner dated September 13, 1854, which states that iron, rather than wood, was now being used for bridge building and it was hoped that iron bridges would soon be built in the county. It was not until the 1870's however, that the county commissioners began using iron truss bridges almost exclusively in county bridge construction. Some of the most popular companies contracted to do the work were the Wrought Iron Bridge Company, Canton, Ohio; King Iron Bridge and Manufacturing Company, Cleveland, Ohio; Groton Bridge Manufacturing Company of Groton, New York and the York Bridge Company of York, Pennsylvania.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION \_\_\_\_\_

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE Cherilyn Widell, Sites Analyst

Frederick County Historic Preservation

ORGANIZATION

3/9/78

DATE

12 East Church St. Winchester Hall

STREET &amp; NUMBER

663-8300

TELEPHONE

Frederick

CITY OR TOWN

Maryland (21701)

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
CORPS OF ENGINEERS

URBANA  
QUADRANGLE

5562 IV NE  
(WALKERSVILLE)

20'

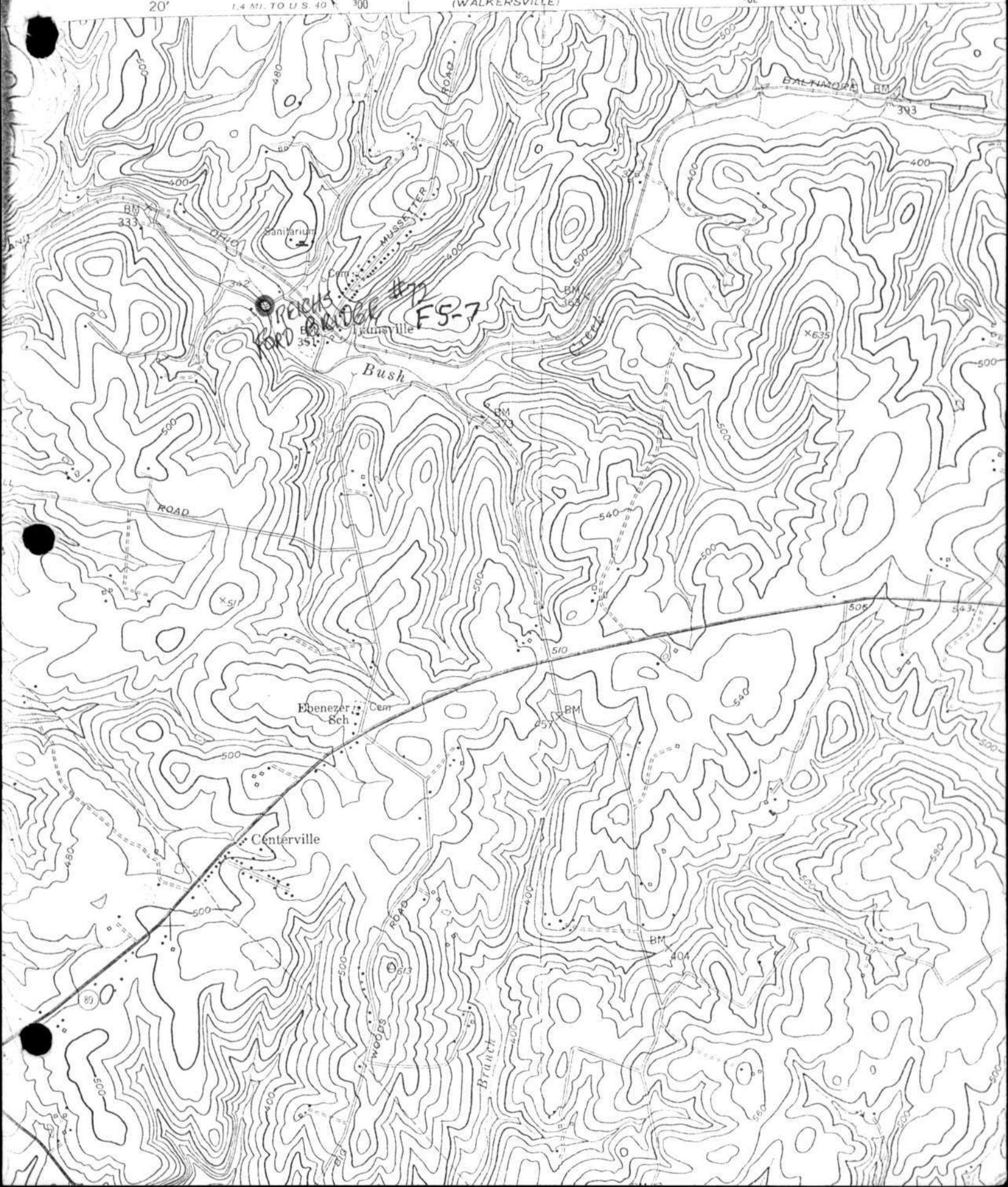
1.4 MI. TO U.S. 40

300

302

17'30"

303





Reich's Ford Bridge over Bush Creek F-5-7

Reich's Ford Road west of Ijamsville

West view

CEW 7/77